

NO. 449

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

February 5, 2004

MINUTES

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. AUDIO CASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments held its meeting at the SCAG Offices downtown Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by the President, Councilmember Bev Perry, City of Brea. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Councilmember Bev Perry, Brea, President	District 22
Councilmember Ron Roberts, Temecula, 1 st VP	District 5
Supervisor Hank Kuiper, Imperial County, 2 nd VP	
Supervisor Yvonne Burke, LA County	
Councilmember Jo Shields, Brawley	District 1
Councilmember Greg Pettis, Cathedral City	District 2
Mayor Lee Ann Garcia, Grand Terrace	District 6
Councilmember Susan Longville, San Bernardino	District 7
Councilmember Deborah Robertson, Rialto	District 8
Mayor Gary Ovitt, Ontario	District 10
Mayor Lawrence Dale, Barstow	District 11
Councilmember Cathryn De Young, Laguna Niguel	District 12
Councilmember Richard Dixon, Lake Forest	District 13
Councilmember Tod Ridgeway, Newport Beach	District 14
Councilmember Lou Bone, Tustin	District 17
Councilmember Alta Duke, La Palma	District 18
Councilmember Ron Bates, Los Alamitos	District 20
Councilmember Art Brown, Buena Park	District 21
Councilmember Paul Bowlen, Cerritos	District 23
Councilmember Gene Daniels, Paramount	District 24
Councilmember Keith McCarthy, Downey	District 25
Councilmember Isadore Hall, Compton	District 26
Councilmember Frank Gurule, Cudahy	District 27
Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal, Long Beach	District 29
Councilmember Tonia Reyes-Uranga, Long Beach	District 30
Mayor Pro Tem Bea Proo, Pico Rivera	District 31
Councilmember Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Councilmember Dick Stanford, Azusa	District 33

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Members Present – Cont'd

Councilmember Paul Talbot, Alhambra	District 34
Councilmember Harry Baldwin, San Gabriel	District 35
Councilmember Tom Sykes, Walnut	District 37
Councilmember Llewellyn Miller, Claremont	District 38
Councilmember Paul Nowatka, Torrance	District 39
Mayor Pro Tem Sandra Jacobs, El Segundo	District 40
Councilmember Bob Yousefian, Glendale	District 42
Councilmember Dennis Washburn, Calabasas	District 44
Vice Mayor Toni Young, Port Hueneme	District 45
Councilmember Glen Becerra, Simi Valley	District 46
Councilmember Greig Smith, Los Angeles	District 59
Councilmember Debbie Cook, Huntington Beach	District 64
Councilmember Ted Burgnon, Town of Apple Valley	District 65
Councilmember Robin Lowe, Hemet	RCTC
Mayor Bill Davis, Simi Valley	VCTC

Members Not Present

Supervisor Marion Ashley, Riverside County	
Supervisor Judy Mikels, Ventura County	
Supervisor Chirs Norby, Orange County	
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, LA County	
Councilmember Charles White, Moreno Valley	District 3
Mayor Ron Loveridge, Riverside	District 4
Mayor Bill Alexander, Rancho Cucamonga	District 9
Councilmember Richard Chavez, Anaheim	District 19
Councilmember Judy Dunlap, Inglewood	District 28
Councilmember Sid Tyler, Pasadena	District 36
Councilmember Pam O'Connor, Santa Monica	District 41
Councilmember Mike Dispenza, Palmdale	District 43
Councilmember Carl Morehouse, San Buenaventura	District 47
Councilmember Ed Reyes, Los Angeles	District 48
Councilmember Wendy Greuel, Los Angeles	District 49
Councilmember Dennis Zine, Los Angeles	District 50
Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Los Angeles	District 51
Councilmember Jack Weiss, Los Angeles	District 52
Councilmember Tony Cardenas, Los Angeles	District 53
Councilmember Alex Padilla, Los Angeles	District 54
Councilmember Bernard Parks, Los Angeles	District 55
Councilmember Jan Perry, Los Angeles	District 56
Councilmember Nate Holden, Los Angeles	District 57
Councilmember Cindy Miscikowski, Los Angeles	District 58
Councilmember Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles	District 60
Councilmember Antonio Villariagosa, Los Angeles	District 61

Councilmember Jeff Miller, Corona
Councilmember Janice Hahn, Los Angeles
Mayor James Hahn, Los Angeles

District 63
District 62
At-Large

Staff Present

Mark Pisano, Executive Director
Jim Gosnell, Deputy Executive Director
Bert Becker, Chief Financial Officer
Colin Lennard, General Counsel
Karen Tachiki, Chief Counsel
Hasan Ikrata, Director, Planning & Policy
Jim Sims, Director, Information Services
Shelia Stewart, Executive Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Councilmember Art Brown, City of Buena Park

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments presented at this time.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval Items

The following consent calendar items was MOVED (Lowe), SECONDED (Roberts) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED:

3.1.1 Approve Minutes of Dec 4, 2003

It was noted that Councilmember Pettis attended the December 4, 2003 meeting.

3.1.2 Approval of Contracts

- ◆ Darnell & Associates
- ◆ Dowling Associates, Inc.
- ◆ Leachman & Associates LLC

3.1.3 Approve 2004 Annual Membership Dues for AMPO of \$18,750

3.1.4 Approve Membership request for the U.S Mexico Border Counties.

- 3.1.5 Ratify EC approval to co-sponsor at no cost an Infrastructure Summit at USC

3.2

Receive & File

- 3.2.1 Contracts & PO between \$5,000 - \$25,000
- 3.2.2 Conflict of Interest Listing
- 3.2.3 Summary of Key Issues and Actions taken by Committees in December

3.3 **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

3.3.1 Appointments

Newly elected Regional Council members:

Hon. Isadore Hall, III, Compton, representing District # 26

Hon. Charles Smith, Orange County, representing OCTA

The following appointments were made:

Regional Council Members to Policy Committees

To TCC: Hon. Isadore Hall, III, Compton

Subregional Representatives to Policy Committees

To CEHD: Hon. Don Szerlip, Redondo Beach, representing
South Bay Cities COG

Water Policy Task Force

Kevin Wattier, General Manager, Long Beach Water Dept.

Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA)

Hon. Hank Kuiper, Imperial County

3.3.2 Kern County SCAG Meeting

Councilmember Roberts reported on the meeting with the Kern Council of Governments that was held on Tuesday, January 29, 2004. Topics discussed included: Freight Movement; the common corridors of SR-58 395 & SR 14.

He stated that it appears that there is an tremendous increase in traffic along SR 58 & 395 bypassing the LA area coming up the 15. HE noted the trucks are continuing north to the point where they are gridlocking themselves, especially in the Bakersfield area.

In addition other topics discussed included Aviation, Warehousing, Water and the State Transportation Funding Crisis as well as Innovative Financing for Goods Movement. Both agencies agreed to work together on rail issues with the Ways & Means Chair Congressman Wilt Bill Thomas from the 22nd District in Bakersfield.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 12 @ the Robinson Ranch in Santa Clarita. Attendees representing SCAG included Councilmember Washburn, Supervisor Mikels, Vice Mayor Toni Young and Councilmember Roberts.

3.3.3 Summit with the Indian Nations

Councilmember Perry stated that part of the goals & objectives of the Strategic Plan was to include enhancing the participation of the Indian Nations in the Regional Planning Process. The first meeting was held with the Tribal Nations in September, 2003. The second summit is scheduled for Friday, February 20, 2004 – 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Cabazon. Topics discussed will include: Receiving input on the participation of the Indian Nations in the planning process, as well as additional information on the possibility of constructing Maglev out to the Coachella Valley.

3.4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jim Gosnell, Deputy Executive Director, highlighted a couple of issues in the report. He reported that the majority of staff's effort in the last month has been to inform at the State & Federal level, as well as the County Transportation Commissions, the problems related to the State budget and transportation with regards to the potential issues on conformity, as well as the ability to consider adoption of the RTP. He stated that staff has been successful at providing information about the problem. He also noted that Mark Pisano met with Liz Hill at the State level and the Governor's transportation staff, regarding the implications of losing additional federal funds.

Additionally, Mr. Gosnell reported that staff is working on a information tool (Extranet) for Regional Council use. He stated that the idea is to create a web accessible vehicle for Regional Council members to access SCAG information in the office.

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Administration Committee Report

4.1.1 Amendment to the Ten Year Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan Task Force voted at its last meeting to amend the Ten Year Strategic Plan to eliminate the two advisory bodies called for under the Plan's public participation goal and instead permit members of the community to serve on task forces in an ex officio capacity for a specified term.

The Task Force considered the advantages and disadvantages of the required advisory groups as envisioned by the Plan. One advantage was the advisory bodies' ability to supplement SCAG's work with diverse suggestions from the community. The disadvantages of the regional advisory groups were numerous: staffing the groups required the allocation of scarce financial resources; members of the public are difficult to recruit and retain for advisory-only groups with vaguely defined purposes; and additional advisory groups might duplicate efforts

After considering and rejecting the possibility of creating freestanding ad hoc advisory committees, staff was directed to draft an amendment to the Ten Year Strategic Plan to permit members of the community to serve on task forces in an ex officio capacity for a specified term. The Task Force specified that any member of a task force should be allowed to nominate a member of the community for a task force, and the task force should approve the nomination. The President of SCAG would then be asked to appoint the member of the community to the task force.

It was MOVED (Dixon) , SECONDED (Bates) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to support an amendment to the Strategic Plan permitting members of the community to serve on task forces as ex-officio members

4.1.2 Execution of MOU with the City of Los Angeles to develop travel demand simulation Model

Councilmember Dixon, Chair, stated that the purpose of this project is to develop a travel demand simulation model for the City of Los Angeles based on SCAG's Regional Travel Demand Model.

The Administration Committee recommended authorizing SCAG staff to execute an MOU with the City of Los Angeles consistent with the terms and conditions set forth

in this report to accept funds up to \$400,000 in order to provide the City a working version of SCAG's Travel Demand Model and to provide the necessary training on its use. Additionally, authorize staff to amend, as appropriate the overall work program and the agency budget.

It was MOVED (Dixon), SECONDED (Bates) and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to approve the amendment.

4.2 **Transportation & Communications Committee (TCC) Report**

4.2.1 **Review of Transportation Appropriation Consensus Program**

The 2004 Southern California Consensus Program articulates the TEA-21 reauthorization principles and priority projects agreed upon by the Southern California Transportation Delegation. Following its review by the Regional Council, the Delegation, comprised of SCAG, IVAG, MTA, OCTA, RCTC, SanBAG, and VCTC, advocated the 2003 Consensus Program during an advocacy trip to Washington, DC in February 2003.

This 2004 update retains the character, principles, and projects of the 2003 Consensus Program. However, it differs from the 2003 Consensus Program because 1) It adds the Gold Line Extension to Montclair to the Los Angeles County section and moves the I-710 Gap Closure and Gerald Desmond Bridge projects to the Intra-Regional section; 2) at the request of OCTA, it reduces the amount of the Centerline project from \$750 million to \$500 million; 3) at the request of RCTC, it increases the amount of the San Jacinto Commuter Rail Line from \$70 million to \$80 million; and 4) it refers to the component parts of the Alameda Corridor East project under each affected county's section in addition to listing in the Intra-Regional section.

The TCC recommended an amendment to the document to replace the reference to SR 60 to East-West Corridor.

After a lengthy discussion it was MOVED (Garcia), Bates (SECONDED) with 3 NOES (Burke, Proo & Yousefian) to APPROVE the Consensus Program

4.3 **Energy & Environment Committee (EEC) Report**

4.3.1 No report

4.4 **Community, Economic & Human Development (CEHD) Report**

4.4.1 No report

4.5 **Communication Task Force Report**

Councilmember Proo, Chair stated that staff provided a demo of the new improved SCAG home page on the web site. In addition staff is also developing an Extranet tool, which will provide an access-controlled web site for RC members.

The Task Force began discussions on developing an electronic newsletter as a means of making information available to members more quickly and efficiently, rather than via a more traditional printed newsletter that is sent by mail. If you have any suggestions or favorite examples, please share them with the Task Force or staff.

She also announced that it's time to start the search for candidates for the annual Donald G. Hagman Regional Citizen's Award. This award is given in recognition of ongoing efforts to sustain and improve the quality of life in our region. This award is designed to honor a "civilian". Elected officials are not eligible for consideration. Information and nomination forms are available and will also be emailed to members. The Hagman Award will be presented at the General Assembly on May 6th.

An update of our RTP / EIR Outreach program was also presented at the meeting. Over this past 12 months, @ 240 outreach events have taken place throughout the region. These include public workshops, presentations to subregions, city councils, various city and county committees and staff, community groups, environmental justice groups, and others. Comments have been received and are being reviewed and addressed. The public comment period closes on February 9th.

Staff has undertaken a media outreach effort related to the funding crisis issue resulting from the Governor's proposed transportation funding reductions. Numerous articles and stories have been secured in local papers, and on radio and TV. Media background kits have been developed and are starting to be distributed today as part of the State of the Region press conference.

5.0 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

5.1 **Monthly Financial Report**

Bert Becker, CFO, stated that SCAG is showing improvement in its cash position. SCAG is utilizing the line of credit less, saving approximately \$34,000 in interest. Since SCAG is no longer utilizing the Caltrans Rapid Pay Program, there has been a \$15,000 savings through January. Total savings between the two is approximately \$50,000 to date.

In addition he reported that the Audit/Best Practices Subcommittee will meet on February 18, 2004. Caltrans Audit staff have been invited to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the high-risk designation, as well as the next audit that will be conducted.

6.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None presented at this time

7.0 LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

7.1 Closed Session

There was no closed session.

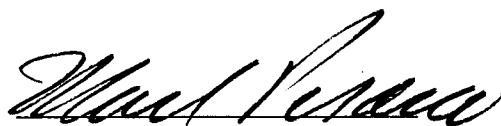
- Morrison Claim
Conference with Legal Counsel – anticipated litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California
Government Code Subdivision C §54956.9
- HDR Appeal
Conference with Legal Counsel – anticipated litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California
Government Code Subdivision C §54956.9 (one potential case)
- SCAG v. HCD & BT&H
Conference with Legal Counsel - existing litigation to be
heard in closed session in pursuant to California
Government Code Section §54956.9(a)

9.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements made at this time.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. for purposes of members participating in a workshop on Growth Visioning. The next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2004.


Mark Pisano, Executive Director